

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-18 are currently pending in the present application, with Claim 2 being canceled, Claims 1 and 5 being amended, and Claim 18 being added. Reconsideration and reexamination of the claims are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have amended Claim 5 to further clarify the claimed invention, and respectfully submit that amended Claim 5 is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsuda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,412,380). This rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to the amended claims. Specifically, the Examiner has indicated that the subject matter of Claims 2-10 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of Claim 1. Applicants have amended Claim 1 to incorporate the limitation recited in now canceled Claim 2, and respectfully submit that Claims 1 and 3-11 are thus in condition for allowance.

Applicants acknowledge that Claims 12-17 are in condition for allowance. New Claim 18 has been added to further claim unique aspect of the present invention. Specifically, Claim 18 recites an analog switch architecture for switching analog waveform signals. Matsuda, on the other hand, is directed to digital switching architecture within an ATM system. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 18 is not anticipated by, nor obvious in view of, Matsuda, and that new Claim 18 is thus in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 535352002200. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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